AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An emergency release mechanism for a railway drawbar comprising:

a) a stud threaded at first and second ends having ~~a~~ an unthreaded intermediate body ~~therebetween~~ having a flat radial surface adjacent the first threaded end, said stud passing through an opening in a drawbar body with said first threaded end screwed into said release rail; and

b) a fastener screwed to a second threaded end to hold said release rail proximate to said drawbar body, wherein a recess is formed in said release rail around said threaded opening in said release rail to receive said first threaded end of said stud, said recess having a flat surface being wider than a width of said intermediate unthreaded body of said stud and being abuttingly engageable with ~~a~~ the flat radial surface of the body of said threaded stud.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 1, wherein said recess has a width wider than any width of said body of said stud.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 1, wherein said ~~nut~~ fastener is a lock nut.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 1, wherein said stud comprises a stud internally threaded at the second end and a threaded bar screwed into said internally threaded end of said stud.

Claim 6 (Original): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 1, wherein said second threaded end includes a dowel extension having a wrench interface for attaching a wrench to said dowel extension during assembly of said emergency release mechanism.

Claim 7 (Original): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 6, wherein said dowel extension includes a through opening for receiving a retaining wire.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An emergency release mechanism for a railway drawbar comprising:

a) a threaded fastener stud having opposed threaded ends and an unthreaded intermediate body portion, said body portion having a flat radial end, said fastener stud passing through an opening in a drawbar body, and said flat radial end surface of said body portion of said fastener stud abuttingly engageable and secured to a release rail, wherein a recess having a flat surface is formed in said release rail with an opening in said recess to receive said flat radial end surface of said fastener stud, said recess being wider than the body portion of said stud; and

b) a fastener secured to one end of said fastener stud to hold said release rail proximate to said drawbar body.

Claim 9 (Original): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 8, wherein said body of said fastener stud is secured to said release rail by a first threaded portion of said fastener stud, said first threaded portion having been screwed into a tapped opening in said release rail.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 9, wherein said body of said fastener stud has a flat bottom such that said recess surface is engageable with said flat bottom of said fastener stud.

Claim 12 (Original): The emergency release mechanism, according to claim 8, wherein said fastener secured to one end of said fastener stud is a nut having been screwed onto a second threaded end of said fastener stud.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method of attaching a shear mechanism to a railroad drawbar comprising the steps of:

a) securing a body of a stud having first and second connectors on each end to a release rail;

b) passing said stud through an opening in a drawbar body;

c) forming a recess in said release rail;

d) forming an aperture in said release rail, a rim of said aperture being located in a flat surface of said recess; and

e) securing into said aperture a first connector of said stud~~, said stud having said first connector, said body, and a second connector,~~ such that there is ~~a~~ an abutting tight fit between said flat surface of said recess and ~~said~~ a flat surface on the body of said stud.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of forming a shear mechanism, according to claim 14, wherein said step of forming a recess includes forming a flat bottomed recess such that said recess is engageable with a surface of said body of said stud adjacent said first connector of said stud.

Claim 16 (Cancelled).